



*Advancing
Astronomy and
Geophysics*

ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

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Minutes of the Council Meeting 9th October 2015

1. ATTENDANCE AND INTRODUCTIONS

PRESENT

Professor Martin Barstow, Professor John Zarnecki, Professor Mike Cruise, Professor Ian Crawford, Dr Mandy Bailey, Professor Lyndsay Fletcher, Professor Mike Edmunds, Professor Christine Pierce, Professor Don Kurtz, Professor Mike Bode, Professor Paul Murdin, Dr Sarah Matthews, Professor Martin Bureau, Miss Jane MacArthur, Dr Stacey Habergham, Professor John Brown, Dr Sara Russel, Dr Stephen Serjeant and Dr Joanna Barstow

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms Pamela Mortimer (Executive Director) and Dr Robert Massey (Deputy Executive Director)

APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Professor James Wild, Dr Caitriona Jackman and Dr Simon Mitton, who was only able to attend to speak to agenda item 6.3 as he was involved with the management of the specialist meeting.

2. MINUTES (& MATTERS ARISING)

The Executive Director advised that a revised set of minutes had been issued prior to the meeting that corrected the attendance section. The minutes were approved pending a change proposed by Professor Lyndsay Fletcher in relation to NAM arrangements.

It was noted that the following matters arising would be covered under agenda items at this meeting:

- Books to celebrate the Bicentenary (agenda item 6.3)
- NAM venues (agenda item 5.3)
- 100 years of women (agenda item 5.4)

On the last two items decisions taken out of committee over the summer were noted:

- Council agreed CDAG's recommendation that Maria Evans be commissioned to take the photographs of 20 women.
- Council agreed that the Society should be the Platinum sponsor for Ada Lovelace day 2016 at a cost of £7500.

3. PRESIDENT'S BUSINESS

The President introduced a video of an installation, named '[Heaven's Carousel](#).' The installation is designed by German artist and composer [Tim Otto Roth](#) and is inspired by novel work on the accelerating expansion of the Universe by Nobel laureate Adam Riess Greek cosmology and Renaissance astronomers. It has been displayed at various locations across Europe. The President suggested that this could be considered for display in the courtyard at Burlington House.

It was agreed the artist should be asked to provide information on the method of installation and display of Heavens Carousel in the courtyard as there are significant Health and Safety and limitations on what can be done to the façade of a Grade II listed building. It was noted that permission from the landlord, Westminster Council (and possibly other regulatory bodies as yet unidentified) and the other Courtyard Societies would be required if Council agreed that they want to pursue this option.

GSL associateship

The President advised that he had received a letter from the Geological Society of London (GSL) asking if the Society would like to become an associated society of the GSL. In reviewing past formal arrangements with GSL it was found that the President of the Society signed a Memorandum of Understanding in 2003; this MOU has not been enforced.

It was agreed that the Executive Director would meet with Sarah Fray, the incoming Executive Secretary of the GSL, to discuss what the associated status entails and other ways that the two Societies could work better together.

ACTION: Executive Director

Olinthus Gregory Plaque

The President reminded Council that as part of a heritage scheme, the Fenland Trust had installed blue plaques marking significant locations in the village of Yaxley. He had attended the unveiling of the plaque to mark the birthplace of Olinthus Gilbert Gregory (1774-1841), the mathematician, author and editor and founder member of the Royal Astronomical Society.

International work

The President reminded Council of the deliberations that had been ongoing in recent years (led by Professor David Southwood) to establish a European Parliament Point of Contact for all European Astronomical Societies. The European Astronomical Society (EAS) will employ Ms Veronika Razler to this position; the Society will underwrite her salary. The financial mechanisms for this are to be agreed. On receipt of information from the EAS the Treasurer will be asked to advice on the appropriate mechanism to transfer funds.

ACTION: Treasurer

Dr Stephen Serjeant advised that briefing documents for Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) on the EU Competitive Council meeting on Space would be being produced in November/December. The President advised that he would ensure this was added to the developing task list for Veronika.

4. TREASURER'S BUSINESS

Council noted the Society's Financial and Legal Status, below.

RAS Financial and Legal Status	Level of Materiality	Report for October 2015 (May 2015 in parentheses)
Transfers in and out of Reserves	£50k	No transfers since last report. Investment assets at Aug 2015 were £6,372,784 (£6,935,960)
Unplanned changes in Cash holdings	£20k	No unplanned changes since last report. Bank balances are £2,910,668 (£2,783,264) We could transfer £2.5 M to a range of higher interest bearing accounts but have not done so. See note below.
Heritage Assets	One heritage item	No change, but our assets are being revalued.
Lease	Any change	Our lease has formally expired, but we are engaged in a legal challenge in concert with our courtyard partners.
Debts	£5k	No change
Legal Agreements	Any change	No change, but rent review under legal debate as previously reported.
Insurance	Any change	Insurance extended. See para 9 below.

The Treasurer informed Council that he had not authorised the transfer of cash to the BNYM investment portfolio or the smaller private investment banks as previously considered. This was a prudent step taken in response to monitoring the UK and global financial markets and general financial instability. Since the Society has a defined need for these funds in the coming years (for example to support RAS 200 grants) it is safer at present to keep the money as available cash.

2. August 2015 Grant round

The Treasurer thanked the Grants Committee for their work on the August grants round. Council noted the following:

- 46 grant applications, totalling £73,232 had been received
- 7 were considered by the Education Committee at a total of £28,000.
- 4 were requests for funding conferences, see below.
- The total travel grants, including Tomkin grants and E A Milne travelling Fellowships, awarded in this round is £20,660.

3. Conference Grants

Council noted that the following conference grants were allocated funds according to the agreed Council guidelines (£2k for a one day conference and £1k extra for a further day).

- “Understanding the rotation, pulsation and chemical peculiarities in the upper main sequence stars”. The conference will be held at the University of Central Lancashire between 5th -9th September 2016 and the RAS funding will support the attendance of about 25 students. Funding allocation of £3000.
- “.Astronomy” (Dot Astronomy) A conference on the use of the web and internet in Astronomy at Oxford, 21st-23rd June 2016. RAS funding will enable the attendance of students. Funding allocation £3000.
- “Astronomy and Planetary Science in the Ultraviolet” University of Warwick, a one day meeting in the period January 6th-8th 2016. RAS funding will support student attendance at the meeting. Funding allocation £2000.
- “Undergraduate Women in Physics” Oxford March 17-20 2016. RAS funding will support undergraduates for attendance and travel. Funding allocation £3000.

4. NAM 2015

The Treasurer advised Council that NAM 2015 had generated a surplus of £10,799. Attendance numbers had been higher than planning assumptions with a total of 535 against a planning figure of 400. He thanked Dr Mandy Bailey who had managed the arrangements for the meeting at the commercial site Venue Cymru in Llandudno very well.

5. NAM 2016

Council noted that discussions are ongoing with the conference centre at Nottingham for NAM 2016. If attendance figures are similar to those of 2015, registration fees are held and the Society is able to not charge VAT the expected deficit is approximately £4k. If VAT is charged the deficit will rise to £25k. It was noted that both of these figures assume a £25k grant from STFC and that this is not certain.

6. Expenses Rates

Council noted the expenses rates applicable to Council members, Committee members and speakers. These are attached to the minutes for information. It was noted that prior approval for exceptions to these guidelines can be obtained from the Treasurer.

7. Pensions

The Treasurer reminded Council of the previous arrangements for RAS staff pensions; staff have had the chance to enrol in one of two pension schemes. Those who joined before 2001 had access to a defined benefits scheme and those enrolling after 2001 were able to join a defined contributions scheme. The defined benefits scheme now has no active members and only five deferred members. He noted that the Society is exploring whether to wind this scheme up for reasons of administrative efficiency and risk reduction.

Council noted the following:

- the defined contribution scheme will not be compatible with the Governments auto-enrol programme
- the Society must have an alternative in place by January 2017.

- The only change required is to move from a set of individual pension schemes to a group scheme.
- The Society's employers' contributions are well above the minimum required by Government so the change will not adversely affect either the pension scheme members or the Society's financial position.

Council had been provided with a summary of the recommendations made by Broadstones, the Society's pensions advisors and approved the change to the Legal and General Group Pension scheme.

Professor Murdin questioned whether the Society had received poor advice when the Society had been advised to set up a collection of individual policies as part of the defined contribution scheme. The Treasurer said he would discuss this with Broadstones.

ACTION: Treasurer

Follow on action Council noted that a proposal on future management of the defined benefits scheme would be presented to Council in 2016.

ACTION: Treasurer

8. HSBC Bank Mandate

Council approved the names on the bank mandate (which provides the authority to approve payments via HSBC) that had been changed to include new staff members. The mandate will include Pamela Mortimer, Michael Kyriakides, Mark Piper, Robert Massey, Ian Crawford and Mike Cruise.

9. Insurance

The Treasurer reminded Council that RAS carries a broad portfolio of insurance including insurance for trustees and insurance for business activities and advised that in reviewing these it had been noted that the Society is not covered for Intellectual Property claims that are processed in US courts. Council discussed the risk to the Society from this and requested further information.

[**POST COUNCIL NOTE:** The Treasurer approved the purchase of insurance with cover for Intellectual Property claims that are processed in US courts as the premium was not significantly higher.]

10. Security Provision in Burlington House

Council approved the following expenditure for improved security provision:

- A new door entry system at a cost of £3k plus VAT for installation that is expected to generate £1200 plus VAT yearly savings over the previous system.
- Upgrade to CCTV for improved coverage at a cost of £2K plus VAT.
- The security monitoring contract will be changed to Redcare/Mitie at an increased cost of £32 plus VAT a year.

The Treasurer noted that whilst the above items individually fall within his delegated responsibility as the total exceeds £5k it was brought to Council for approval. He noted that in future this type of expenditure will be covered under the care and maintenance budget delegated to the Executive Director. Under the new RAS

budgeting system Council will be asked to agree budgets annually. The item below refers.

11. Financial Monitoring

The Treasurer noted that work has been ongoing during the summer months to set up automated management reporting, cash flow predictions and operations planning tools. From 2016 there will be separate budget allocations for each activity and spend will be automatically monitored against allocations.

Council noted that they will receive a copy of the management accounts and the updated operations plan at the December meeting.

ACTION: Treasurer

12. IAU 2015

Council noted the paper on the IAU General Assembly, held in Honolulu in August 2015. The President and Treasurer had attended.

In summary the organisation of the official business was very poor and financial information was nowhere near adequate.

Council noted that unless structural change is quickly introduced reputable organisations like the RAS may find it difficult to deliver payments of the membership dues in a way consistent with their own rules of financial probity.

5. ORGANISATION AND STRUCTURE

5.1 Governance

A. Trustee Paperwork

It was noted that as Trustees of a Charity Council members are required to complete a Conflict of Interest declaration and a Charity Trustee declaration.

B. Governance documentation

The Executive Director reminded Council that:

- The Society approved a revised set of byelaws at the Annual General Meeting in May 2015. This was an important step towards modernising the procedures and supporting documentation for the effective governance of the Society.
- The Society introduced the Universal Ethical Code for Scientists a number of years ago, this was re-presented to the Fellowship at the AGM in May.
- Regulations for Associateship (Honorary Fellowships) were approved in May 2015.
- The Diversity, Equality and Inclusion policy was approved (subject to minor wordsmithing) at the Council meeting in July. This can be found at https://www.ras.org.uk/images/Diversity_Equality_Inclusion_policy.pdf

Behaviour in Burlington House

Council noted that standard wording on how visitors to Burlington House are expected to behave has been added to events and room booking paperwork.

Management of RAS Committees

The Executive Director has been liaising with the Chairs of the committees subordinate to Council to agree revised Terms of Reference (based on a standard template) and membership details. Council considered the revised Terms of Reference for the Finance Committee and agreed the current membership.

It was noted that revised Terms of Reference for other committees will be presented to Council for approval in December.

Other regulations

Council noted that the following regulations will be drafted over the next few months:

- a) RAS Awards
- b) Conduct of the RAS ballot
- c) Guidelines for minor grants

Regulations on RAS Awards

Council discussed the current regulations for making on RAS Awards. It was noted that whilst the revised byelaws set out the procedure for the award of the Gold Medals they state that Council shall determine the arrangements to make other awards for achievement in fields of interest. Council agreed that the Awards Committees should work to the current set of regulations in 2015 and that a full review (setting out criteria) should be carried out for approval by Council in February 2016 and implementation in 2016 awards round.

ACTION: A&G Awards Committees

C. Herschel House Trust

Council noted that the Society ceased to be a Trustee of the Herschel House Trust (HHT) on 31st July 2015 and made a £10,000 restricted grant for use by the HHT in the support of its charitable objectives (that remain unchanged.) The Society will continue to be represented on an advisory body to the HHT; the Chair of the Heritage Committee (or RAS Librarian and Archivist) will represent the Society on the advisory board.

D. Staff

Council noted the schematic of the RAS staff structure and that the following staff had been appointed in 2015:

- Mark Piper was appointed as the RAS accountant in April 2015. It was noted that the Society retains the assistance of Michael Kyriakides as the senior accountant and will continue to do so for some time to come.
- Beth Gaskell was appointed as a part time library assistant in May 2015.
- Meron Kassa was appointed as an Administrative Officer in May 2015 and works mainly on membership matters.
- Sam Lindsay was appointed as an Assistant Editor in May 2015. Sam is also assisting with media and press.
- Morgan Hollis was appointed as an Assistant Editor in June 2015. Morgan is also assisting with media and press.

- Clare McLoughlin will replace Sheila Kanani as the Education, Outreach and Diversity Officer when Sheila goes on maternity leave in December 2015.

E. HR Revisions

Council were reminded that one of the key drivers for reviewing the Byelaws was to ensure that HR matters could be dealt according to current HR legislation and best practice. The Executive Director advised:

- that the RAS staff handbook was last reviewed in April 2012, it is out of date and is based on the old byelaws
- currently the RAS staff handbook it is directly linked to some of the staff contracts of employment, which is not best practice.
- Over the years, letters of employment (that serve as staff contracts) have been issued in a non-standard format and changes to the Terms and Conditions of Service (TACOS) made by inference through changes to the staff handbook. Staff have not been asked to formally agree to revised TACOS.

It was noted that two HR companies had been approached to review the existing paperwork and provide a quote for overhauling the procedures and setting the Society up on a firm, legal footing. The Executive Director reassured Council that any changes will be made in full consultation with staff (who are aware that this is being considered) and that as there is no intention to reduce staff benefits this should not be seen as contentious.

Council approved the appointment of Wendy Blake Rankin, HR consultant at a cost of £5250 (plus VAT) to update staff handbooks and letters of employment.

F. Buildings maintenance, Health, Safety, Security

Council noted the following:

- Significant improvements in the management of the building have been seen in the last year and key improvements made, e.g. boiler replacement, installation of the window in reception, new telephone system, more efficient and cost effective contracts entered into (franking of mail, lift maintenance contractor)
- Improved CCTV and a new door entry system and intruder alarm will be installed in the next month.
- No significant building management projects are planned for the coming year. In the medium term there is the requirement to replace the circuit board in the lift, this is likely to cost around £15K.
- Regular staff training as fire wardens and in first aid continues with 7 staff trained as fire wardens and 6 trained as first aiders. Fire extinguisher training was recently carried out.
- The Society is a member of the Heart of London Business Alliance who work with the Metropolitan Police to provide security updates and training for central London based organisations. The Executive Director and the Office, Events and Building manager attended a Counter Terrorism workshop that looked at the particular issues that businesses may face in helping to prevent, handle and recover from an incident and stressed the importance of having the necessary plans in place to help safeguard staff, visitors and assets. Evacuation plans are in place, invacuation plans are being developed.

G. Modernising Burlington House Furniture

Council agreed that the Council room furniture is not fit for purpose and that the Society would benefit from modern (moveable) and configurable furniture.

It was noted that a fine furniture and works of art dealer (<http://davidpickupantiques.com>) had visited Burlington House to appraise the Council room, library and miscellaneous furniture and had advised that he did not think that there would be a market for the tables or dresser in the (Executive Directors room) but that there may be a market for the Council room chairs if sold separately. Council noted that it seems unlikely that significant income will be generated to offset expenditure against new furniture and there may be disposal costs for existing furniture.

Council agreed that the furniture should be offered to worthy organisations that would like to purchase (perhaps for a nominal fee) the tables/dresser. It was noted that the table(s) could be used in the Annexe in future years.

It was noted that this matter should be dealt with out of committee over the coming months.

5.2 Outlook: RAS Library (Executive Director), for information

Council considered a paper that provided an update on progress in the following areas:

- dealing with the Annex and its contents
- improvements to security, preservation and the researcher experience in Burlington House
- outreach activities.

There was little time for discussion on this item. The main decisions taken by Council were to continue to maintain the funding lines previously agreed by Council including funding for the library assistant and to establish a preservation budget of £5K. The librarian had provided a realistic assessment of the time and resources required to clear the Annex and options for consideration; no decision was taken on this matter. The Executive Director was asked to discuss access issues with the new Executive Director at the Geological Society for London.

ACTION: Executive Director

Council noted the improvements to the security and preservation of the library, archive and artefact collection and the increased use of the library for outreach and education activities. The Executive Director highlighted what a good job Sian Prosser the Librarian and archivist was doing, this sentiment was echoed by the Chair of the Library Committee and Chair of the Heritage Committee.

5.3 National Astronomy Meetings

Council noted the following dates and locations for future National Astronomy Meetings (NAM)

- Nottingham (27th June to 1st July 2016)
- Hull (2–7 July 2017)
- UCL, dates in 2018 to be confirmed.

The Executive Director advised that she had approached a number of conference organisers to obtain a quote for organising NAMs at various location across the UK for a 3-5 year period.

5.4 Update on plans to celebrate 100 years of women in the Fellowship

Dr Sara Russel, Chair of CDAG updated Council on plans to celebrate 100 years of women in the Fellowship.

Photographic exhibition

The short list of women identified by CDAG to be photographed had been tabled. The women had been chosen to provide a diversity of career stage, geographical location. Council were asked to provide suggestions to Dr Russel within the next few days to improve the short list Council noted that the photographer Maria Evans will take the pictures of the 20 women who are chosen to represent the RAS for our photography exhibition.

A&G

Council noted that the centenary of the first women becoming ordinary Fellows of the RAS will be celebrated in A&G through a sequence of articles published in expanded issues of A&G throughout 2016. There will be a cover image for the February issue and some branding on the cover throughout the year. These articles will be made available electronically individually and as a 'virtual issue'.

Dr Sara Russell, the librarian and the editor of A&G had identified both key women in the history of the RAS and cultural aspects of their changing roles in science, resulting in an outline plan for ~17 articles of various lengths, giving a historical overview of the women Honorary Fellows and the first Fellows, and the society in which they lived. They have identified potential authors for most of the articles.

Ada Lovelace day 2016

Council were reminded that the Society will be the main sponsor for Ada Lovelcae Day in 2016.

Re-enactment

Council noted that the re-enactment of the first signing of a women Fellow will take place on Friday, 8th January 2016 at the Open Meeting. Tea will be available from 3 – 3.50 pm, with fellows seated ready for prompt start at 4pm. Re-enactment to be complete by 4.30 pm.

6. POLICY AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

6.1 Update on public events and cultural campus activities

Council welcomed a paper that set out the public events and cultural campus activities that had taken place in the last few months.

6.2 Update on RAS 200: Sky and Earth

The Deputy Executive Director updated Council on progress with RAS 200: Sky and Earth.

Council noted that Jenesys Associates had been appointed as Evaluation specialists; they have been contracted to evaluate the projects in Tranche 1 of the grants allocated. Council is yet to agree whether the evaluation costs should be funded from within the £1M allocated to RAS 200 or if the Society should find this separately and

additionally out of core funds. It was noted that the RAS 200 steering group would consider this further and would make a recommendation to Council.

[**POST COUNCIL NOTE:** The RAS steering group met in November but did not discuss this matter. A paper will be requested for consideration by Council in February 2016]

Professor Mike Bode asked if the physical location of the Freemasons Taverns, where the decision to establish the Society was taken, still exists and suggested that if it does the Society should consider marking the location with a plaque.

[**POST COUNCIL NOTE:** In the nineteenth century the Freemason's Tavern was located in Great Duncan Street, Lincolns Inn Fields, London but no longer exists. See link: <http://www.lookandlearn.com/history-images/XJ108360/Freemasons-Tavern-Great-Duncan-Street-Lincolns-Inn-Fields-London?img=3&search=1+June+1811&bool=phrase>]

6.3 Bicentenary planning

Dr Simon Mitton summarised his paper on options to RAS bicentenary books. Council discussed the merits of both proposals:

- (1) Production of an attractive commemorative volume showcasing some 40 – 60 objects and treasures that the Society owns: portraits, rare books, archives, and objects.
- (2) Publication of a new history of the Society, covering the 200 years.

Council agreed that there was merit in developing plans to undertake both options. Dr Simon Mitton was tasked with working up costed options for consideration by Council.

ACTION: Dr Simon Mitton

Council noted that a paper on publishing a children's book will be presented for their consideration in December 2015.

ACTION: Executive Director

6.4 Proposal for a RAS Outreach Medal

The Deputy Executive Director introduced a paper that proposed the creation of an Outreach medal. Council were reminded that the Society introduced the Patrick Moore Medal in 2011 to honour the achievements of outstanding secondary school teachers of astronomy or geophysics. The medal has been restricted to school teachers. It was noted that here is no equivalent RAS medal for 'outreach', so those working in other settings on public engagement are not eligible for any award at present.

The current Education and Outreach Committee recommend that the Society establishes a new medal, named after Annie Maunder, one of the first women to be made a Fellow of the RAS. The following was proposed:

- the medal is launched in 2016, as part of the Society's celebration of the centenary of the admission of women to fellowship.
- nominations will open from the summer of 2016, with the first award made at NAM in 2017. Thereafter the Medal will be available annually.

The Education and Outreach Committee had recommend that the medal is restricted to nominees whose main occupation is not outreach and public engagement. Council debated this point.

Council agreed that the medal should be established and that the criteria should be agreed as part of the review of the RAS Awards regulations.

6.5 Consultations

Council noted the House of Commons Science and Technology Select Committee's Inquiry into the Science Budget.

6.6 RAS Media Communications Plan

The Deputy Executive Director explained that he had revised the Media Communications plan and that Council would be asked to comment out of Committee.

6.7 A&G website update

The Executive Director reminded Council that they had approved funding to establish and run the A&G website in 2013.

In summary, A&G Online will be a website on which RAS Fellows and staff can share news of their activities, such as outreach activity and travel funded by RAS Grants. The site will provide a record of those activities and will serve as a repository of good outreach ideas

Council noted the following progress:

- The RAS IT Officer Steven Pryer has secured the domain name www.astrongeo.com.
- Eight web design companies were approached and down selected to two companies.
- Betton Design were contracted (at a cost of £7720) for the project including training, social media and search engine optimisation.
- The launch of the new site is expected at the December 2015 Meeting.

Council noted that the development of the A&G website is intended as something of a testbed for redevelopment of the RAS website, identifying effective ways that the Society site could be improved.

7. PUBLICATIONS

7.1 Minutes of the Publications Management Committee.

Council noted the minutes of the Publications Management Committee (PMC) held on the 28th April 2015.

It was noted that whilst the PMC had considered the issue of unethical rick sampling raised by Sheila Peacock back in February 2015 it had not be addressed to her or other Geophysicists satisfaction. Council agreed that the matter should be raised with the incoming GJI Editor in Chief.

ACTION: RAS Editorial Office Manager via Executive Director

8. OTHER

8.1 Update on RAS Awards 2016

Council noted the paper on RAS Awards 2016.

Professor Lyndsay Fletcher briefly explained to Council that the G Awards Committee had received an application for the Group Achievement Award that had a Council member as a lead part of the team; as such this application will be deferred until the individual is no longer serving on Council. It was noted that this matter should be considered as part of the review of the RAS Awards regulations.

8.2 Update on Patrick Moore Medal 2016

Council noted the update on the Patrick Moore Medal.

8.3 American Astronomical Society meeting January 2016

The Executive Director advised that the RAS gold medal exchange lecture and RAS drinks party would not take place at the AAS winter meeting as the RAS Gold Medallist was unable to attend due to ill health. It is hoped that this will take place at the summer meeting that will be held in San Diego on the 12th to 16th June 2016.

8.4 Officers Reports

Council approved the following candidates proposed for Fellowship:

Surname	First Name	Town/ University	Sponsor
Amey	Ruth	Leeds University	John Mound
Anand	Mahesh	The Open University	Carole Haswell
Bateman	James	Bedford	Dr Stacey Habbergham
Baugh	Carlton	Dept Of Physics, Durham University	Prof C.S Frenk
Beech	James	Halifax	John Baruch
Beth	Arnaud	Imperial College London	Marina Galland
Boyce	Alistair	London	David Cornwell
Brunsdon	Emily	University of York	Karen Masters
Chainakun	Poemwai	University of Bristol	Andrew Young
Chaloner	Christopher	Bristol	A.M Cruise
Clark	Benjamin	Keele University Staffordshire	Coel Hellier
Cook	Neil	Dunstable	Martin J Hardcastle
Danesy	Frank	Seeheim-Jugenheim	Toby Clark
De Patoul	Judith	University of Exeter	Claire.Foullon
Devereux	Nick	Aeronautical University	membership committee
Ebo	Simon	Chester	D.W Kurtz
Gaertner	Sabrina	The Open University	Andrew Norton
George	Simon	Thaxted	Andrew Norton
Gyori	Noemi	London	David Cornwell
Hart	Alexandra	Cheshire	Ian Ridpath
Jackson	Miranda	Cardiff University	Paul Roche
Johnson	Jessica	University of East Anglia	Jon Mound
Johnson	Michael	Bristol	Dr D L Clements
Jordan	Christopher	Hull	Brad Gibson
Keats	Brook	Worcester College, Oxford	Jennifer Taylor
Kershaw	Thomas	London	Sheila Kenani
Liu	Wen-Po	Civil Aviation University of China	Shude Mao
Lloyd	Ryan	University of Bristol	Jon Mound

McCreadie	Heather	Aberystwyth University	Balazs Pinter
McMillan	Stephen	Drexel University	Douglas Heggie
Morgan	Jake	Polgate	Peter Gill
Nordon	Maureen	Woking	Margaret Joan Penston
North	Eve	Abingdon	Tomas James
Omairi	Tareq	Sheffield	Prof M Wainwright
Robinson	Adam	Durham	David Cornwell
Robinson	Katharine	The Open University	Andrew Norton
Rose	Marvin	University of Sheffield	Clive Tadhunter
Samuroff	Simon	London	S.Bridle
Spencer	Samuel	Northumberland	P.M Chadwick
Stamatellos	Dimitris	UCLAN	Derek Ward-Thompson

9. AOB

a) Arrangements for the December Council meeting

It was noted that the President and Treasurer have been invited to the Tim Peake launch and therefore would both be unable to attend the December Council meeting. The President-elect will take the Chair. The Senior Accountant will update Council on progress in generating RAS management accounts and improving fiscal processes in the Society.

b) Education and Outreach grants

The Deputy Executive Director introduced a paper on a proposal for the budget allocated to Education and Outreach grants to be increased to £20K; it was noted that the paper was late as there had not been an opportunity to obtain agreement from the Treasurer in advance of the meeting. There was much discussion on this item and it was agreed that the Chair of the Education and Outreach Committee would liaise with the Treasurer and provide a paper for the consideration of Council in December.

Council rose at 15:30

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 Professor M. Barstow

9th October 2015